

To: Edward K Thompson</OIVOS/DOI@DOI>
cc: niniau@hgea.org, HooipoPa@aol.com, plaenu@pixi.com
Subject: Reconciliation Draft Report: Lies and Manipulation... (fwd)

----- Forwarded message -----
Date: Fri, 25 Aug 2006 19:20:46 -1000 (EST)
From: Tony Castanha <castanha@hawaii.edu>
To: Karen_Sprecher_Resting@ios.doi.gov, Edward_K_Thompson@os.doi.gov,
konaakamaolialii@hawaii.edu
Cc: alohamau@lava.net, lcruz@hawaii.edu, salvadorehawaii.edu,
poetalk-1@hawaii.edu, waihuli1@hotmail.com, SPOMRGY75@webtv.net,
press@akaka.senate.gov, mistarella@aol.com, rpayne@usgs.gov,
polisci-1@hawaii.edu, yasminehawardusa.net, wt109@webtv.net,
aumakua@aloha.net, kelly@hawaii.edu, nelanima@aol.com, afsc@pixi.com,
vince pollard<grillardshawaii.edu>, robert_p_smith@fws.gov, pinky@lava.net,
patrick7@webtv.net, patricia_zoll@indian.senate.gov, pat_parker@mps.gov,
pan@onic.net, emilidz@hotmail.com, nini.shakaloha.net, ohazaloha.net,
niniau2@hgea.org, twocoi.edu, michele_r_xhoda@exec.state.hi.us,
Melia_Jane-Kamahuli@mps.gov, mardie_jane.nps.gov, lyear@usgs.gov,
lsantos@oha.org, liliakoi@caats.ecsc.edu, kepa@interpret.net, kalipil@aol.com,
kalahui@gte.net, john.harte@usdoj.gov, jmorris@ohn.org,
jncorris@clcie.psu.esat.hawaii.edu, jthorpe@hawaiian.net,
jim_martin@mps.gov, info@hawaii-i-mation.org, iharp@aloha.net,
hoonawaloha.net, hooipo@hotmail.com, huxycwiba.net,
hawaii-nation@groups.com, gundaa@mindspring.com,
esther_kim@atmail.house.gov, shower1@compuserve.com, doug_lantz@mps.gov,
danofamily@nol.com, danner@hawaiian.net, otaakap@dbedt.hawaii.gov,
cjkjam@email.msu.com, chantaleicelle.com, edonnelly@starbulletin.com,
edonnelly@hawaii.rr.com, ecock@hinc.org, ecockausi@kokee.hawaiian.net,
ebokaupi@hawaii.net, breder@lava.net, bob_c_freitas_jr@exec.state.hi.us,
benlon_pang@fws.gov, barbara_maxfield@fws.gov, atihine@aloha.net,
loina@gte.net, mroth@nra.gannett.com, loretta_tuell@doi.gov,
nummyde@aol.com, yachberry@aol.com, jennifer_chock@indian.senate.gov,
scott_keeprios.doi.gov, edith_blackwell@os.doi.gov, adell_smose@doi.gov,
scott_miller_st_@solho@doi.gov, tim_elliott@ios.doi.gov,
robin_friedman@r.doi.gov, onward@ukulele.ios.doi.gov, castanha@hawaii.edu
Subject: Reconciliation Draft Report: Lies and Manipulation...

PLEASE FORWARD

From Mauna O' Maui.
The Rivers of INjustice Must Flow Freely

Public Comments by Tony Castanha

Dear Karen Sprecher Resting and Edward K. Thompson:

Here are my comments to the "Draft Report on the Reconciliation Process Between the Federal Government and Native Hawaiians, Prepared by the Department of Interior and the Department of Justice," August 23, 2000. I testified orally at the December hearings and co-submitted the "Non-Kanaka Maoli Ally Statement of Solidarity" on behalf of the "Kanakamaoli allies" Hawaiian Sovereignty internet discussion group. I am a Hawaiian National.

To begin, I am sure it is merely "coincidental" that the August 23 date of the release of this report comes on the same date/deadline for submittal of written testimony on the "Akaka Bill." This may assume that the two reports are separate and unrelated to each other, but on inspection of both documents the two are obviously intrinsically interrelated; by imposing Federal wardship ("domestic dependent nation") status on na Kanaka Maoli Hawaiian Kingdom subjects, I have heard that your hands have been bureaucratically tied for the past six months preventing release of the report in February as promised. I am sure that the release of this report FIVE days before the Akaka Hearings is also merely "coincidental." But hey, it's OK, that still gives us THREE more days to get the word out regarding the lies and manipulation of this Reconciliation Draft Report. The intrinsic interrelatedness of the two documents now makes it crystal clear how, under the guise of "reconciliation," the Akaka Bill is being RAMRODDED down the throats of Hawaiians:

I am forwarding to you below a series of news clippings published last December which reveal the nature of the oral testimonies presented throughout the islands. Those of us who attended and followed the island-to-island testimonies know well that at least 80 percent of the oral testimonies presented called for Hawaiian INDEPENDENCE and RESTORATION of the Hawaiian Kingdom nation. This was clearly articulated in the news clippings of that week. So where are the oral testimonies of the 80 percent who called for Hawaiian INDEPENDENCE and RESTORATION of the Hawaiian Kingdom nation? In the draft report all you mention is that "Van Norman and Berry visited Native Hawaiian communities and held informal discussions on O'ahu, Kaua'i, Maui, Hawai'i, Lanai, and Moloka'i" (p. 14). Regarding the 200 statements heard during the two days of testimonies at the East-West Center, all you say that happened after the morning discussion sessions is that "Public input was heard following each panel discussion" and "Public input was heard at the end of the roundtable discussion" (p. 15). Regarding these East-West Center testimonies, you refer the reader to "Appendix C for list of participating individuals and organizations" (p. 15). A glance at Appendix C notes, "Appendix will be available with the Final Report" (p. C-1). This appendix will merely LIST the individuals and organizations who participated at the East-West Center, but WHERE ARE THE ACTUAL ORAL TESTIMONIES OF THOSE WHO TESTIFIED ON ALL OF THE ISLANDS?? Where are the "over forty hours of statements" that Mr. Berry and Van Norman listened to? (p. 15). Where are the oral testimonies of the 80 percent who called for Hawaiian INDEPENDENCE and RESTORATION of the Hawaiian Kingdom nation? Were those testimonies not recorded and not a part of the "reconciliation" process record? Were these testimonies not important enough to be included in the "reconciliation" process record? Or is it safe to say that you know very well that if these testimonies were publically revealed your bogus recommendations would fall flat on their face?

Let's take a look at the written submissions. Where are they? Were the extra six month's not enough time to include them in this important draft report? Should we assume that you would not include the written statements because of their title... FIVE days before the Akaka Hearings? Appendix D, "Written Statements to follow," indicates that the statements will be avail-

able for review "in the near future..." (p. 5-1). Instead, you provide "Table 1. Written Reconciliation Statements received, by topic" (p. 16), which is revealing in itself. The table is arranged by the topics of concern individuals and organizations addressed. The counts are greater than the total number of written statements received because many statements addressed more than one issue:

TOPIC	COUNT	PERCENTAGE
Sovereignty	75	29%
Nation-within-a-Nation	15	5.9%
Self-Determination	45	16.5%
Anti-Reconciliation	15	7%
Health	51	20.3%
Education	55	21.6%
Housing	47	16.9%
Land and Natural Resources	61	23.9%
Community and Economic Development	47	19.2%

In terms of models of self-government, let's view the two categories addressed, that is, "Sovereignty" and "Nation-within-a-Nation." Both groups account for the highest percentage and lowest percentage of topics addressed by respondents. The distinction between "Sovereignty" and "Nation-within-a-Nation" can only be interpreted in terms of the differences in political status, the latter subsumed under U.S. Federal "Indian" law, and the former as international status or independence as most nations and experts today would interpret it to be. Because we know that 60 percent of the oral testimonies island-wide called for Hawaiian INDEPENDENCE and RESTORATION of the Hawaiian Kingdom nation, might one assume correctly that the 75 count under "Sovereignty" were testimonies given by supporters calling for Hawaiian INDEPENDENCE and RESTORATION of the Hawaiian Kingdom nation? It is obvious from the island-wide testimonies given that the "self" in self-determination is crying out for Hawaiian INDEPENDENCE and RESTORATION of the Hawaiian Kingdom nation. So all can you possibly make the following outrageous statement in "Reconciliation 1": "As a matter of justice and equity, this report recommends that the Native Hawaiian people should have self-determination over their own affairs within the framework of Federal law, as do Native American tribes" (p. 3).

Here, in typical colonial fashion, you are IMPOSING your will in what YOU think would be best for Native Hawaiians out of YOUR OWN self interest. This is the same patronizing attitude your first Supreme Court Chief Justice, John Marshall, rendered in 1831 in the landmark decision, CHEROKEE v. GEORGIA. This is when Marshall coined or rather INVENTED the concept of "domestic dependent nation" status, which IMPOSED absolute dominion (Congressional plenary power) over Native American Indian nations who had been INDEPENDENT and SOVEREIGN since time immemorial! This decision has "plagued everyone ever since." (Vine Deloria, Jr., "Behind the Trail of Broken Treaties," 1972). The "west was won" through policies of genocide

and violations of treaties, just like the five bilateral treaties the U.S. violated with the Kingdom of Hawai'i, and the imposition of blood quantum measurements on Native Hawaiians in 1935, an act of genocide under the 1948 Genocide Convention. Your government had supposedly entered into these treaties in good faith and trust, but it has been all lies and MANIPULATION ever since.

Sincerely yours,

Tony Castanha
Matsunaga Institute for Peace

----- Forwarded message -----

Date: Wed, 23 Aug 2001 16:37:10 -1000
From: Hawaii Nation Info <info@hawaii-nation.org>
To: hawaii-nation@groups.com
Subject: [hawaii-nation] Report does NOT reflect community mana'o

Honolulu Star-Bulletin, August 23, 2000

"Akaka said the release of the draft report ... reflects the mana'o (thoughts) offered by the Native Hawaiian community."

Honolulu Advertiser, December 6, 1999

Nearly 200 Kauai residents, almost all of them Hawaiian, showed up for the first of a statewide series of reconciliation hearings being held as part of the 1993 federal resolution that apologized for the overthrow of the Hawaiian monarchy more than a century ago.

Speaker after speaker told representatives of the U.S. Justice and Interior departments that if the federal government really wants to atone for its role in the overthrow of the Hawaiian monarchy in 1893, the appropriate action is simple.

In different words, many speakers repeated the same message. Some samples:

"We need sovereignty. ... Restore the Kingdom," said Arthur Tusk Sr.

"We don't need anything from the federal government. Just pack your bags, take all your military bases, and go back where you came from," said Robert Pa.

"We should actually be talking to representatives of the State Department," said Wilma Holi.

"Give back the land. This is an issue of foreign affairs," said Ipo Torio.

Kane Pa asked mehui... : the audience and support an independent Hawaiian nation to ... More than 80 percent of the audience stood.

Star-Bulletin, Tuesday, December 7, 1999, 6:40:01 PM HST

HILO -- Federal officials want to know what the U.S. government can do

within the framework of federal laws to promote the interests of Hawaiians. Mark Vasilas of the U.S. Office of Tribal Justice said today,

He didn't hear much, or fit his request

West Hawaii Today, December 9, 1999

Native Hawaiians want the Hawaiian Kingdom restored - that was the message to federal representatives Wednesday at a Kailua-Kona reconciliation talk.

More than 80 people attended and more than 30 testified at the hearing, one of an islandwide series sponsored by the U.S. Department of the Interior and Department of Justice addressing the federal 1993 Apology Bill, which acknowledged the unlawful overthrow of the Hawaiian monarchy in 1893.

Many models of government in Hawaii were offered, but Native Hawaiians and their supporters focused on the initial step of vesting power in the Hawaiian Kingdom.

"Independence, that . . . we ask," said Lunakanaawai Hoanui.

Most members of the audience stood up during a speech by cloaked members of the Royal Order of Kamehameha. "The Kingdom of Hawaii continues to exist."

Star-Bulletin, Friday December 16, 1938

Bercy and Mark Van Wagoner, director of the Office of Tribal Justice, met with hundreds of Native people statewide this past week. Many asked them to push for Hawaiian independence, restoration of the Hawaiian monarchy, cessions and reparations.

Associated Press, Inc. - 1974

Many of the speakers... lied for an independent Hawaii, and rejected federally recognized "tribe."

"Judge us by what we do when we leave here."

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... Independence or Sovereign

i - Independent > Sovereign
info@i-nation.org https://hawaii-i-nation.org

'The cause of God and independence is larger and dearer than the life of any man connected with it. Love of country is deep-seated in the heart of every Hawaiian, whatever his station.'